

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application. Claims 1-2, 4, 9-10, 16, 18-19 and 22 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3, 12-14, and 16-18 of co-pending application S/N 10/825,094. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner, but in the interest of passing this case to issue hereby submit a Terminal Disclaimer in view of the '094 application, and submit that this provisional rejection is now moot.

Claims 1-2, 5, 7-8, 17 and 21 also stand objected to for certain informalities, all of which have been addressed by the claim amendments presented herein.

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the Examiner's indication of allowability as to claims 3, 5-8, 11-15, 17 and 20-21.

Regarding the prior art made of record by the Examiner but not relied upon, Applicants believe that this art does not render the pending claims unpatentable.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully urge the Examiner to pass this case to issue.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 08-2025. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 08-2025.

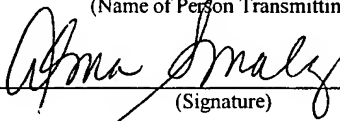
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

September 23, 2005

(Date of Transmission)

Alma Smalling

(Name of Person Transmitting)

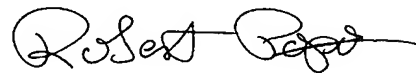


(Signature)

9/23/05

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Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments